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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

PETER DELVECCHIA, et al.,)	Case No: 2:19-CV-01322-KJD-DJA
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	PLAINTIFF PETER DELVECCHIA’S
)	MOTION FOR AN ORDER TO SHOW
vs.)	CAUSE DIRECTED TO THE U.S.
)	TRANSPORTATION SECURITY
)	ADMINISTRATION
FRONTIER AIRLINES, INC., et al.,)	
Defendants.)	
)	

Plaintiff Peter DelVecchia (“Peter”), by counsel, hereby moves for an Order to Show Cause directed to the United States Transportation Security Administration (“TSA”), requiring TSA to show cause why Peter and his attorney John D. McKay (“McKay”) should not have immediate access to certain “Sensitive Security Information” (“SSI”) requested in discovery from Defendant Frontier Airlines, Inc. (“Frontier”) that is necessary for Peter’s preparation of his case against Defendants. In support of this Motion, Peter states the following:

PLAINTIFF PETER DELVECCHIA’S MOTION FOR ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

- 1 1. On October 10, 2019, this Court entered a comprehensive Protective Order [ECF No. 37]
2 that restricts disclosure of any material designated “confidential” by either of the parties
3 and provides for Court oversight of any disputes concerning the designation or disclosure
4 of such materials.
5
- 6 2. On April 1, 2020, this Court granted Peter’s motion [ECF No. 60] filed pursuant to 49
7 C.F.R. §1520.7 and §525(d) of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act
8 of 2007, Pub. L. No. 109-295, 120 Stat. 1355, 1382 (October 4, 2006), to designate Peter
9 and his attorney McKay as “covered persons” able to receive and view SSI related to this
10 case and for which Peter has substantial need to conduct depositions and otherwise
11 prepare his case. The Court’s Order [ECF No. 76] specifically found it warranted for “the
12 requested information to be disclosed in accordance with the confidential designation
13 under the parties’ protective order.” *Id.* at 3. The Court added: “However, the Court will
14 require that Plaintiff and his counsel comply with any security background check or other
15 procedures and requirements for safeguarding SSI that are satisfactory to TSA.” *Id.*
16
- 17 3. Peter and McKay have both submitted to TSA’s background checks, with no adverse
18 findings.
19
- 20 4. However, for more than a year since entry of the April 1, 2020 Order, TSA’s in-house
21 counsel have refused to authorize Frontier to disclose the SSI. As a result, Plaintiffs and
22 Frontier have been unable to schedule the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of Frontier, and
23 Plaintiffs’ experts have been unable to finalize their reports.
24
- 25 5. TSA’s refusal to permit the disclosure of the SSI stems from its insistence that the parties
26 enter into TSA’s own formal protective order, which contains terms that Peter and McKay
27 find objectionable because, *inter alia*, they would reinstate the same preliminary review
28

1 procedures that have previously resulted in substantial delays in this case, and which were
2 the reason why Peter moved for the “covered persons” designations in the first place.
3 TSA’s proposed protective order would essentially turn the clock back to the same
4 situation that existed prior to entry of the April 1, 2020 Order. TSA justifies its position on
5 the basis of the Court’s statement in the April 1, 2020 Order that it “will require that
6 Plaintiff and his counsel comply with any security background check *or other procedures*
7 *and requirements for safeguarding SSI that are satisfactory to TSA*” (emphasis added),
8 despite the Court’s explicit finding in the preceding sentence of the Order that the existing
9 Protective Order is sufficient.
10

- 11
- 12 6. TSA’s proposed protective order also gives no weight to the Court’s designation of Peter
13 and McKay as “covered persons,” and it seeks to impose \$50,000 penalties by agreement
14 for the disclosure of documents “potentially” containing SSI, which creates a vague
15 standard that could result in substantial penalties pertaining to documents that were never
16 marked as containing SSI but which TSA might subsequently determine do contain SSI.
17 Peter and McKay have informed TSA that they cannot agree to such terms.
18
- 19 7. Despite numerous attempts to resolve these matters with TSA during the past year, TSA’s
20 attorneys have refused to back down from their demand that the parties sign their
21 proposed protective order containing those terms. As noted above, TSA’s insistence on its
22 terms has created significant delays in discovery in this case.
23
- 24 8. Peter and McKay believe that the current Protective Order, ECF No. 37, provides
25 adequate protections against disclosure of the SSI, as the Court previously found. If for
26 any reason it does not provide every necessary protection, a simple addendum to it, with
27 specific additional restrictions for SSI (for instance, further limiting the persons who can
28

view the SSI) would suffice to meet the Court's requirements as stated in the April 1, 2020 Order, without the re-imposition of unlimited review periods or the addition of unauthorized penalties.

9. Frontier's counsel have stated that Frontier does not take a position in this request for relief. They have agreed to provide notice of this Motion to TSA's counsel.

DATED this 2nd day of May, 2021.

/s/ John D. McKay

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